



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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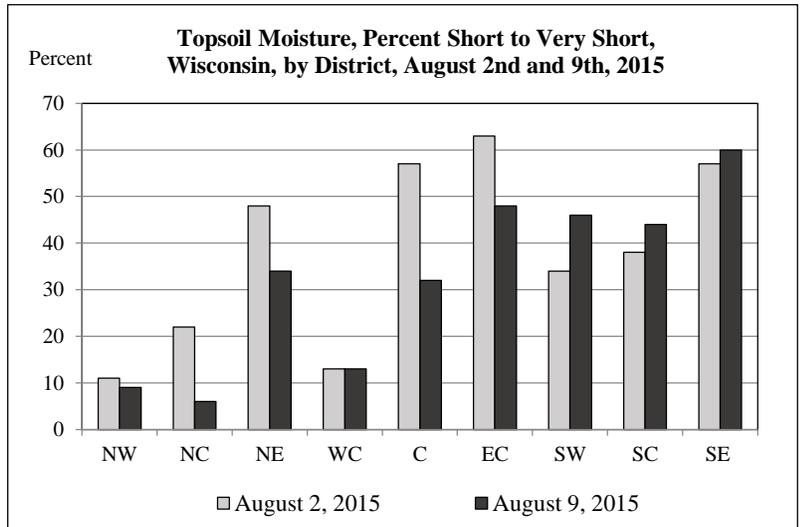
Timely Rains For Some

There were 5.7 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending August 9, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Haying and small grains harvest progressed quickly until the dry weather pattern of the last several weeks finally broke. A large storm system brought rain to much of the state on Thursday night and Friday, with additional scattered showers on Sunday. Reporters noted that rainfall totals varied widely even within the same county, with totals ranging from a trace to over three inches. Many reporters noted that the rain was just in time to support grain development in corn and soybeans and that hay stands perked up in response to the moisture received. However, dry conditions continued to worsen in areas missed by the storm, particularly in the southern third of the state.

On average, topsoil moistures were rated 32 percent short to very short, compared to 36 percent the previous week. Subsoil moistures were 28 percent short to very short compared to 27 percent last week. The three southern districts of the state saw topsoil moistures fall while topsoil moistures in the rest of the state rose or held steady.

As of August 9, 27 percent of **corn** had reached the dough stage or beyond, 4 days ahead of last year and 1 day ahead of the five-year average. The corn crop was rated 79 percent good to excellent, compared to 80 percent the previous week. Seventy-two percent of the **soybean** crop had begun setting pods, 5 days ahead of both last year and the five-year average. Eighty percent of the soybean crop was rated good to excellent, 1 percentage point less than the previous week. The **oat** crop was 55 percent harvested, 8 days ahead of last year and equal to the five-year average. Oats condition was rated 83 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point more than last week. Twenty-one percent of **potatoes** had been harvested statewide. **Potato** condition was rated 93 percent good to excellent, compared to 91 percent last week. Eighty-five percent of **winter wheat** had been harvested, 6 days ahead of last year, with 23 percent harvested during the week.

Pasture condition was rated 63 percent good to excellent, down 6 percentage points from last week. The **third cutting of alfalfa** was 63 percent harvested. This haying season continues at the second fastest pace in more than 35 years, trailing only 2012. **All hay condition** was rated 81 percent in good to excellent condition, 1 percentage point less than last week. A reporter in Rusk County reported that a little color is showing up in some of the trees.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 9, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn.....	1	4	16	53	26
Hay, All.....	0	3	16	56	25
Oats.....	0	3	14	56	27
Pasture & Range..	0	11	26	47	16
Potatoes.....	0	1	6	72	21
Soybeans.....	1	3	16	55	25

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of August 9, 2015

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent									Percent			
Alfalfa hay, third cutting.....	64	44	67	56	60	72	69	73	55	63	40	36	44
Corn silking.....	88	76	85	98	96	88	97	95	93	92	82	80	88
Corn in or beyond dough stage	18	19	16	28	36	26	37	32	13	27	7	18	24
Oats turning color.....	97	94	91	99	96	97	99	99	99	97	93	91	n.a.
Oats harvested.....	38	40	21	79	58	43	76	73	74	55	31	36	56
Potatoes harvested.....	10	25	45	68	14	n.a.	7	9	n.a.	21	11	0	n.a.
Soybeans blooming.....	81	89	98	80	97	87	95	93	93	89	81	87	87
Soybeans setting pods.....	69	64	74	67	74	71	81	76	73	72	49	62	58
Winter Wheat harvested.....	61	62	70	90	82	79	86	97	97	85	62	70	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of August 9, 2015

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	6.8	6.3	6.0	5.7	6.4	6.1
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	1	0	14	1	5	10	12	11	1	6	5	10
Short.....	8	6	20	12	27	38	34	33	59	26	31	31
Adequate.....	83	94	62	80	65	48	27	53	39	61	57	56
Surplus.....	8	0	4	7	3	4	27	3	1	7	7	3
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	1	0	4	0	5	9	7	9	2	4	2	5
Short.....	8	6	29	11	23	44	23	31	57	24	25	26
Adequate.....	88	94	67	84	69	46	70	57	40	70	71	67
Surplus.....	3	0	0	5	3	1	0	3	1	2	2	2

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BARRON-T.J.: This week we received 3-4 inches of much needed rain. This is perfect timing for the corn as it moves from pollination into grain fill. Several winter wheat growers are reporting record yields this season.

SAWYER-K.S.: More rain fell over the weekend, interfering with hay harvest. Some reports of strong wind and hail. More heat and drier weather for the upcoming week would be welcome.

CLARK-R.H.: Another dry week. Most farmers are looking to the skies for some rain. With some needed moisture this could be a very good year for grain yields. The good news is field work is getting done. Second crop hay is coming off the field and third crop harvest has begun. Small grains and straw are moving to the bin and barn. Have heard reports of good small grain yields this year. Soybeans and corn are setting pods and beginning to fill. After small grain harvest some fields are getting manure applications and being replanted.

MARATHON-S.N.: Received some needed rain this week.

FLORENCE-S.R.: Winter wheat and oats yields and straw yields coming in above average by a bit.

ST CROIX-D.K.: 1.5 inches of rain this week really took the stress off corn and beans. Fourth crop hay looks excellent as well. It's been a great growing year so far.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: This past week was very dry and windy which resulted in drier soil conditions. Crops showing stress, some severe. Irrigation units have been running this week. Friday rains welcomed although very uneven rainfall amounts throughout the county varying from less than an inch to 3 inches.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: A very welcome soaking rain fell Friday. Crops should show improvement in the next week.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: 1 inch rain on Aug 7. Significant damage already to dryland crops from lack of rain. No rain here between July 18 when we received 0.8 inches and Aug 7.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: Strong storms and gentle rains provided 1.40 inches rain at the bookends of this period. This led to reductions in plant stress and came just in time to aid ear and pod fruit set. Our portion of the county at least was spared the wind and hail damage. Soil profiles are just barely connected with moisture. We'll still need to see a couple of inches of rain the next few weeks to make average yields. Fourth crop alfalfa received a much needed boost as well. Insect pressure remains low this season.

VERNON-K.L.: No rain this week. Farmers harvesting small grains and alfalfa. Top soil is very dry and both crops and pasture are in need of rain. Pasture ground has started to deteriorate. Crops in general still look good, the best they have looked overall for the past couple of years. Both hay and small grain yields have been above average.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Rainfall around the county was quite varied. 2.5 inches in the north half of the county. Up to 1 inch in the south half, with amounts in some locations as little as 0.5 inches. Rain was very welcome throughout. Hay and soybeans on knolls of fields are still showing drought stress.

GREEN-J.T.: DRY!

WALWORTH-N.W.: We seem to be missing all of the rain. Conditions are really dry and soybeans are burning up on lighter soils.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 9, 2015

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug. 8	Mar. 1 to Aug. 8 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	79	57	85	52	68	-4	1824	1694	3.12	14.05	+4.75	23.50	+3.92
Green Bay	79	58	93	51	68	-2	1769	1567	1.88	6.92	-0.85	13.88	-3.47
La Crosse	84	62	94	57	73	-1	2201	1894	0.22	7.54	-1.76	20.14	-0.20
Madison	81	60	90	53	71	+0	1974	1842	0.36	8.53	-0.44	19.25	-1.22
Milwaukee	79	64	93	61	72	+0	1680	n.a.	0.52	4.61	-3.47	14.82	-6.05

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites: <http://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <http://www.cocorahs.org/> <http://www.weather.gov/>